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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/773,818   | 02/06/2004  | Teruhisa Shibahara   | 36856.1213          | 7932             |
| 54066  | 7590        | 07/20/2006           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| MURATA MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD.<br>C/O KEATING & BENNETT, LLP<br>8180 GREENSBORO DRIVE<br>SUITE 850<br>MCLEAN, VA 22102 |             |                      | SUMMONS, BARBARA    |                  |
|  |             | ART UNIT             | PAPER NUMBER        |                  |
|  |             | 2817                 |                     |                  |
| DATE MAILED: 07/20/2006  |             |                      |                     |                  |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                             |                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | Application No.             | Applicant(s)     |
|                              | 10/773,818                  | SHIBAHARA ET AL. |
|                              | Examiner<br>Barbara Summons | Art Unit<br>2817 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-65 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/6/04, 8/17/04 & 1/30/06.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Objections***

1. The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

The claims have not been numbered consecutively because there is no claim 21.

Misnumbered claims 22-66 have been renumbered 21-65.

### ***Election/Restrictions***

2. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

Species I: A SAW filter with a portion of a wiring trace of a first conductor pattern where different potentials face each other is disposed on an insulating pattern with a permittivity less than the piezoelectric substrate as shown e.g. in Fig. 1 (claims 1-12).

Species II: A SAW filter having a first conductor with a first wiring pattern on the piezoelectric substrate, an insulating pattern thereon, and a second conductor with a second wiring pattern on the insulating pattern and crossing the first wiring pattern with the insulating pattern therebetween as shown e.g. in Fig. 8 (claims 13-24).

Species III: A SAW ladder filter having a conductor pattern with a wiring trace and a portion of the wiring trace formed on an insulating pattern as shown e.g. in Figs. 10, 12 and 13 (claims 25-35).

Species IV: A SAW ladder filter wherein a portion of a first wiring pattern and a portion of a second wiring pattern cross each other with an insulating pattern therebetween as shown e.g. in Fig. 14 (claims 36-47).

Species V: A SAW lattice filter having a conductor pattern with a wiring trace and a portion of the wiring trace formed on an insulating pattern (no figure)[claims 48-56].

Species VI: A SAW lattice filter wherein a portion of a first wiring pattern and a portion of a second wiring pattern cross each other with an insulating pattern therebetween as shown e.g. in Fig. 15 (claims 57-65).

The species are independent or distinct because, as indicated by the figures, a SAW filter may have different arrangements of conductor patterns than that of a SAW ladder filter and that of a SAW lattice filter, and a portion of a wiring trace on an insulating pattern is a different arrangement than first and second wiring traces crossing with an insulating pattern therebetween such that searches for each species are also separate and distinct.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim is generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims

readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species.

MPEP § 809.02(a).

3. A telephone call was made to Mr. Peter Medley (Reg. No. 56,125) on July 17, 2006 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of

record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara Summons whose telephone number is (571) 272-1771. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, M-Fr.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bob Pascal can be reached on (571) 271-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

bs  
July 17, 2006

*Barbara Summons*  
BARBARA SUMMONS  
PRIMARY EXAMINER